



CSBG Success Story

Please submit success story to Mandalyn Mackey at mandalyn.mackey@commerce.wa.gov. If you have questions, contact Mandalyn at 360-725-2854. Due Date: The 10th of the month the story is due.

Date: March 8, 2010

Organization Name:	Hopelink
Contact Person/Title:	Debra Grant
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1. Success Story is for:	<input type="checkbox"/> ARRA <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> FFY 09 (skip to question 7) <input type="checkbox"/> FFY 10 (skip questions 5 & 6)
2. CSBG Project Name:	Family Development Program
3. Project Budget:	\$740,190
4. Number of clients expected to serve:	750 individual family members
5. Number of jobs expected to be created/retained as a result of this project:	0
6. Number of jobs actually created/retained as a result of this project to date:	0
7. Brief project/activity description:	Case Management Services and GED, Computer and Money Management Classes
8. How will this project help clients, build community and form new partnerships? What aspects of the project would you like to share with the public:	

Jessica, a 43 year old single mother of two daughters, 13 and 23, came to our Family Development Program because she wanted to make a difference in her life and provide a better future for her daughters. Jessica also wanted to model a change for her oldest daughter, since she was close to moving out on her own. Jessica currently lives in subsidized housing, but one of her long term goals is to move out and provide a better environment for her daughter. Jessica's short-term goals included getting her GED, paying off debt and improving her credit score, increasing her income, gaining computer skills and teaching her oldest child skills around budgeting.

In order for Jessica to work on her debt she needed to focus on increasing her income. Jessica has a job that has career potential with the school district given that she passes her GED and employment advancement test. Taking this employment test would increase her income by \$4.00 per hour and make her eligible for benefits. After many years of having the hopes of completing her GED she has now passed her GED. Jessica is participating in one-on-one tutoring with the Adult Education staff and a volunteer tutor to work towards passing her employment advancement test.

Jessica has enrolled in a computer class at Hopelink where she is participating in Microsoft E-learning courses. Jessica plans to use these computer skills to supplement her income with a home business opportunity that

she is working to grow. Jessica is working with Hopelink employment staff to determine feasibility and ensuring that her choices are well thought out and will bring the results she is trying to achieve.

Through Jessica's focus, new learnings from money management classes and planning with her case manager she has reduced her debt by almost \$4,500 and is close to be debt free. Once Jessica has managed to pay off all her debt and once she gets that increase in income she will start on her final goal of moving from subsidized housing, thus opening new capacity in limited affordable housing for another family in need and creating the environment and opportunities she wants for her youngest daughter.

The Family Development Program through case management works with the whole family. In the case of Jessica her oldest daughter is 23 and received support through case management by setting her own goals around employment, budgeting and exploring educational opportunities. The case manager meets with her on budgeting monthly, paying bills, setting up and maintaining a bank account and savings. She is currently working two jobs and has moved out on her own.

Jessica will continue to work with her case manager but is well on her way to meeting her goals and becoming self-sufficient which a year ago seemed unattainable. Way to go Jessica!